

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claim 1. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A method for mapping business and engineering processes, comprising the steps of:

giving users access to a system for generating an emergent model, the emergent model including one or more models having computer instructions and data that describe behavior of a system being modeled and/or evaluate the system being modeled;

independently publishing, using a computing device, inputs and/or outputs of data objects and/or function objects generated by the users, at least some of the data objects and/or function objects being model inputs and/or model outputs, at least some of the function objects defining interdependencies within the one or more models by providing solvable expressions that relate data objects and/or function objects;

independently subscribing to the published inputs and/or outputs of data objects and/or function objects generated by the users from at least one computing device on a computer network through the system for generating an emergent model, thereby creating a network of linked inputs and/or outputs of data objects and/or function objects without a predefined or global definition;

analyzing and displaying, using a computing device, the network of linked inputs and/or outputs, resulting in a map of the business and engineering processes;

wherein the network of linked inputs and/or outputs of data objects and/or function objects is created in a manner free of a central coordinating computing device and in a manner free of a predefined or global definition; and

wherein the data objects and/or function objects generated are used in business and engineering processes.

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2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein at least a part of the configuration of the network of linked inputs and/or outputs of data objects and/or function objects is predefined and used to determine which data objects and/or function objects are generated on which of the computing devices in the computer network.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein a user interface is defined that displays the data objects and/or function objects on a computing device on the computer network using a client process that communicates with a server process wherein the data objects and/or function objects can be viewed on any computing device connected to the computer network.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the data objects and/or function objects are stored in logical groups.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein references to the data objects and/or function objects are published using electronic media, print media or human conversation.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of generating the data objects and/or function objects provides an interface mapping for data objects and/or function objects stored in application programs, databases or computer code libraries.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the function objects are implemented by computer code that is compiled, dynamically linked and evaluated at runtime.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the function objects are implemented by computer code that is interpreted and evaluated at runtime.

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9. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of sending or receiving messages between the linked inputs and/or outputs of data objects and/or function objects.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12 wherein the predefined criteria is based upon message source, message destination or message contents.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
identifying a user of the emergent model and assigning appropriate read, write, execute and administrative permissions to the user on a per data objects and/or function objects basis, the permissions being used to limit access to a specific subset of the data objects and/or function objects.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9 wherein the sending or receiving messages can be enabled or disabled based on predefined criteria.